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PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

[ISSUED NOVEMBER 10TH, 1870.]

SESSION 1869-70.

Fourteenth Meeting, 13th June, 1870.

SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON, BART., K.C.B., PRESIDENT, in
the Chair.

ELECTIONS.—*J. Dentry, Esq.; W. Thomas Greenup, Esq.; James Pimblett, Esq.; W. R. Shedden Ralston, Esq., M.A.; J. Hyde Sparks, Esq.*

ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY FROM 9TH MAY TO 13TH JUNE.—
'Voyage à l'Amerique Septentrionale.' Par Le Marquette et St. Joliet. Paris, 1781. Donor W. D. Cooley, Esq. 'Half Round the World.' By Viscount Pollington. 1867. Donor the author. 'Instructions nautiques pour la Baie de Fundy.' Par G. F. Macdougall. Traduit par J. La Font. Paris, 1869. 'Instructions nautiques pour la Navigation de la Côte Ouest d'Ecosse.' Par M. Frickman. 'Sur la Nouvelle Calédonie.' Par MM. Chambeyron et Danaré. Paris, 1869. 'Pilote des Côtes Ouest de France.' Par Bouquet de la Grye. 'Pilote de Terre Neuve.' Par G. C. Cloué. 2 vols. 'Routier des Côtes N. O., Ouest et Sud d'Espagne.' Par Le Gras. 'Description des Côtes du Royaume de Portugal.' Par Le Gras. 'Essai sur l'Atterrage et l'Entrée de la Rade de Brest.' Par M. H. de Roujoux. 1868. 'Pilote de la Mer Noire.' Par H. de la Planche. Paris, 1869. 'Etude sur les Ouragans de l'Hémisphere Austral.' Par M. Bridet. Paris, 1869. 'Annuaire des Marées des Côtes de France.' Par R. de Genouilly. Paris, 1869. 'Annales hydrographiques.' Par Le Gras. Paris, 1869. 'Catalogue chronologique des Cartes,' etc. 'Catalogue par Ordre Géographique.' Paris, 1869. 'Sur les Sondes.' Par J. E. Davis, R.N.

Traduit par M. Bouquet de la Grye. Paris, 1869. Donor of the above, Dépôt des Cartes et Plans de la Marine. 'The Mineral and other Resources of the Argentine Republic in 1869.' By F. J. Ricard, 1870. Donor the author. 'La Ligne Militaire du Syrdaria.' Par T. Lobyservitsch. St. Petersburg, 1865. Donor R. Michell, Esq. 'Physical Geography.' By Mrs. Somerville. Revised by H. W. Bates. 1870. Donor H. W. Bates, Esq. 'Tutor to Astronomy and Geography, 1674.' By Joseph Moxon. Purchased. 'Germany in 1677.' By E. Brown. Purchased. 'Translation from an Arabic MS., Grand Cairo to Mount Sinai, 1753.' By R. Clayton. Purchased. 'Remarks on the Abyssinian Expenditure.' By J. C. Hoseason. Donor the author. 'Persia in 1633.' *Ex Officina Elzeveriana*. 'Russia, 1633.' *Ex Officina Elzeveriana*. Donor John Power, Esq. 'Papers relating to the U.S. Survey of Central America, 1869-70.' Donor John Power, Esq. 'Arran Island, 1807.' By J. Headrick. Purchased. 'Collection of Voyages by the Portuguese and Spaniards in the 15th and 16th Centuries.' Purchased. 'Opuscula.' By R. G. Latham. 1860. Purchased. 'Cape of Good Hope in 1731.' By Peter Kolben. Purchased. 'H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh in India.' By J. Fayrer. Calcutta, 1870. Donor the author. 'Reisen in Ost-Afrika.' By C. von der Decken. 4th vol. Leipzig, 1870. Purchased. With the usual contributions from Learned Societies and Publishers.

ACCESSIONS TO MAP-ROOM SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF MAY 9TH.—Chart of Spitzbergen, showing the route of the Swedish Expedition of 1868, and other Arctic voyages between Greenland and Spitzbergen. Presented by Professor Nordenskiöld. Panoramic Chart of a proposed Canal through the Isthmus of Darien. By M. L. de Puydt. 1866. Presented by the author. 4 copies. 856 sheets of the Ordnance Survey of England and Wales, on various scales. 24 Admiralty Charts. 156 French Charts, and 24 Books of Pilotage.

The PRESIDENT, before proceeding to the consideration of the papers that were to be read, explained to the meeting the nature of the succour that had, to the great credit of the Earl of Clarendon and Her Majesty's Government, been sent to Dr. Livingstone. There had been much misapprehension on the matter, judging from the numerous applications he had received from active young men anxious to go in search of Dr. Livingstone, it being supposed that there was an expedition about to start for that purpose from this country. No such expedition had, however, been intended. Dr. Livingstone had been more than three years and a half in the heart of Africa without a single European attendant. He (the President) was not sure that the sight of an unacclimatized young gentleman sent out from England would not produce a very bad effect upon the Doctor, because in addition to his other labours he would have to take care of the new arrival. He had therefore to announce that the 1000*l.* which

the Government had given will be sent by Mr. Churchill, the Consul of Zanzibar, who happens, accidentally, to be in this country, and who is going out immediately. He will instruct Dr. Kirk to fit out a similar expedition to that which started last year, but which was impeded by an attack of cholera. The epidemic has greatly subsided, and the only difficulty now is to get to Ujiji, where Dr. Livingstone was when last heard of, unable to move forwards or backwards for want of carriers and supplies. It will take two months or more for these supplies to reach Ujiji from Zanzibar, therefore all anxiety must be put aside for months to come. In about seven or eight months good news might be expected, and soon after that he (the President) hoped we might see our friend again in his native country.

The following Papers were then read :—

1.—*Travels in Western China and Eastern Thibet.*—By T. T. COOPER.

THE writings of that gallant officer and gentleman, Captain Blakiston, who first explored the Upper Yang-tsze River, leave me but little to say on the part of my journey relating to the Yang-tsze Kiang. I shall therefore take my starting point from Ta-tsian-loo, the border town and Customs Station of Western China.

I was detained here more than three weeks by the difficulty of procuring competent interpreters, and mules and ponies to serve as baggage animals. At last, having completed all my arrangements, I left the little border town on the 30th day of April, 1868, taking with me a good store of food, consisting of Chinese hams, flour, Thibetan butter, and a liberal supply of brick tea, with beads, needles, and thread, for barter; as beyond this point a handful of tea, a few needles, or a few yards of white or blue thread, are of more value than gold, silver, or copper coin; indeed, the latter are useless, while Sycee silver and rupees are only exchanged at a considerable loss.*

Leaving behind us the magnificent gorge of Ta-tsian-loo, with its perpendicular walls of mountains, we followed up the stream, which flowing through it joins the Ta-tow-ho at the foot of the gorge; by noon we had reached the summit of the Jeddo range of mountains, which may be said to form the great natural wall of Western China. The toilsome ascent through a bleak country, covered with irregular masses of grey sandstone, blackened by time and weather, was amply rewarded by the splendid view which greeted us on reaching the topmost ridge; below us to the west gigantic wave-like mountains, covered with grass, rolled in vast masses for miles, as far as the eye could reach, without the vestige of a tree or shrub on them, but dotted here and there with herds of yaks and sheep; while a back-

* My party consisted of two interpreters, for the Chinese and Thibetan languages, and a mule-driver.